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Industrial Disputes, Australia

The number of disputes (strikes or lockouts), employees involved and working days lost; cause of dispute; duration; and the reason work resumed

Reference period June 2020

Released 3/09/2020

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Key statistics

In the June quarter 2020:

- 11 disputes occurred.
- 1,100 employees were involved and 1,500 working days lost.
- disputes occurred in 4 industries and in 3 states.

Across 2019-20, there were 102 disputes with 35,600 working days lost.

Main features

Quarterly estimates

- 11 disputes occurred, 12 fewer than from the previous quarter.
- 1,100 employees were involved, a decrease from 4,000 in the previous quarter.
- 1,500 working days were lost, a decrease from 3,900 in the previous quarter.

- More than five in ten (53%) working days lost were in the Transport, postal and warehousing industry.
- More than seven in ten (71%) working days lost were in Victoria.

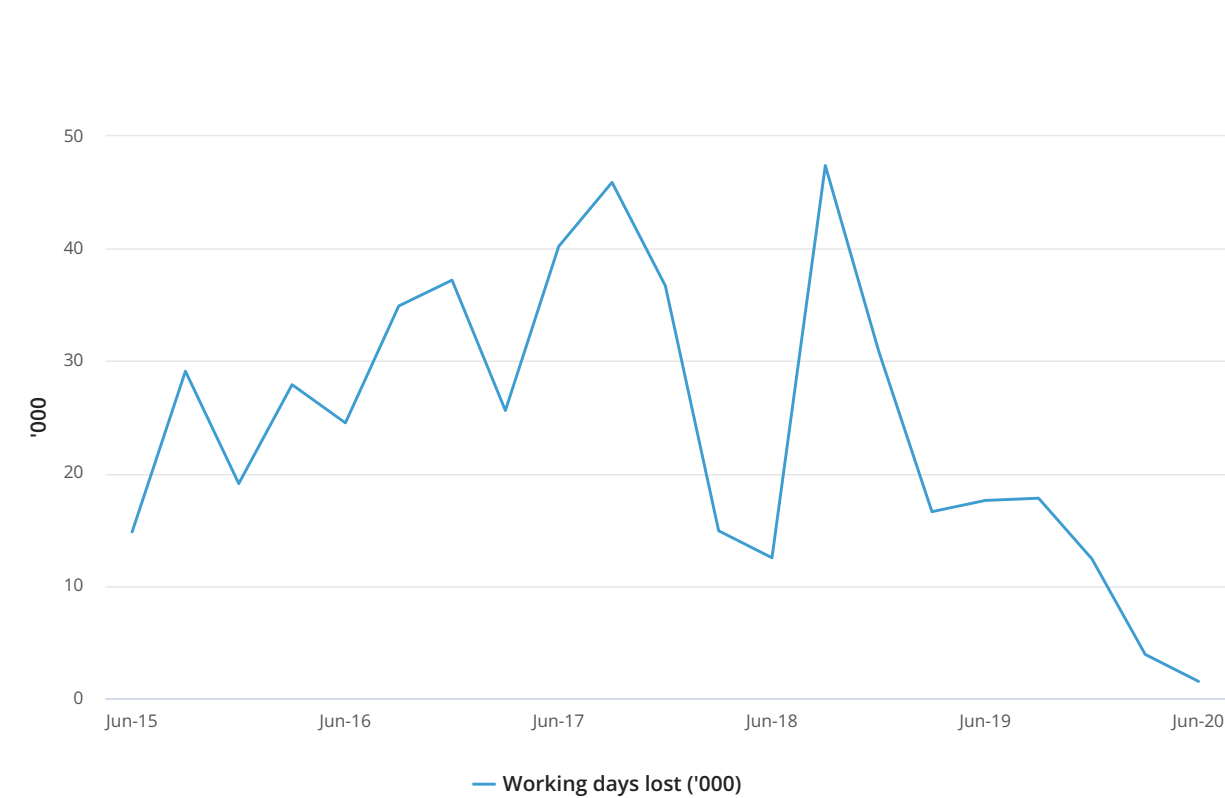
Year ended estimates

- 102 disputes occurred, 68 less than in the previous year.
- 35,600 working days were lost, 68% less than the previous year.

	Quarter		Year ended	
	March 2020	June 2020	June 2019	June 2020
Number of disputes				
Commenced in period (no.)	r17	8	163	94
Total (no.)	r23	11	170	102
Employees involved				
Newly involved ('000)	r2.9	0.9	65.8	28.8
Total ('000)	r4.0	1.1	66.0	29.6
Working days lost ('000)	3.9	1.5	112.5	35.6

r revised

Working days lost, Australia



Tables

1 Industrial disputes which occurred during the quarter

	Number of disputes		Employees involved		
	Commenced in period	Total	Newly involved	Total	Working days lost
	no.	no.	'000	'000	'000
June Quarter 2018	42	48	14.4	14.6	12.5
September Quarter 2018	44	51	13.6	13.8	47.4
December Quarter 2018	53	62	25.6	28.8	30.9
March Quarter 2019	32	44	7.8	9.3	16.6
June Quarter 2019	34	44	18.8	20.2	17.6
September Quarter 2019	35	43	16.8	17.5	17.8
December Quarter 2019	34	38	8.3	8.8	12.4
March Quarter 2020	r17	r23	r2.9	r4.0	3.9
June Quarter 2020	8	11	0.9	1.1	1.5

r revised

2 Industrial disputes which occurred during the quarter, industry

	March Quarter 2020		June Quarter 2020	
	Working days lost	Working days lost per thousand employees	Working days lost	Working days lost per thousand employees
	'000	no.	'000	no.
Mining				
Coal mining	-	-	-	-
Other mining	-	-	-	-
Manufacturing				
Metal product etc(a)	0.1	0.3	-	-
Other manufacturing	0.9	1.7	0.6	1.2
Construction	0.2	0.2	np	np
Transport, postal and warehousing	2.5	4.3	0.8	1.6
Education and training; Health care and social assistance	0.1	-	np	np
Other industries(a)	0.1	-	-	-
All industries	3.9	0.3	1.5	0.1

- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

a. See Glossary - Industry - for details of industries included.

3 Industrial disputes which occurred during the quarter, states and territories

	March Quarter 2020		June Quarter 2020	
	Working days lost	Working days lost per thousand employees	Working days lost	Working days lost per thousand employees
	'000	no.	'000	no.
New South Wales	1.0	0.3	np	np
Victoria	2.0	0.6	1.0	0.4
Queensland	np	np	np	np
South Australia	-	-	-	-
Western Australia	np	np	-	-
Tasmania	-	-	-	-
Northern Territory	-	-	-	-
Australian Capital Territory	-	-	-	-
Australia	3.9	0.3	1.5	0.1

- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

4 Industrial disputes which ended during the quarter

December Quarter 2019				March Quarter 2020		
	Total Number of Disputes	Total Employees Involved	Working days Lost	Total Number of Disputes	Total Employees Involved	Working days Lost
	no.	'000	'000	no.	'000	'000
CAUSE OF DISPUTE						
Enterprise Bargaining (EB) related						
Remuneration	8	1.2	4.2	4	0.2	0.3
Employment conditions (EB)	15	5.3	9.5	12	3.4	3.6
Other EB related	2	np	np	-	-	-
Non-EB related						
Remuneration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Employment conditions	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health and safety	4	0.5	0.4	3	0.2	0.1
Job security	1	np	np	-	-	-
Managerial policy	-	-	-	1	0.1	0.1
Union issues	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Non EB related	3	0.9	0.5	-	-	-
Total	33	8.0	14.6	20	3.8	4.1
WORKING DAYS LOST PER EMPLOYEE INVOLVED						
Up to and including 1 day	22	6.8	2.5	13	3.3	2.7
Over 1 day and up to including 2 days	1	np	np	4	0.4	0.6
Over 2 and less than 5 days	3	0.4	1.0	1	np	np
5 and less than 10 days	2	np	np	1	np	np
10 days and over	5	0.6	10.4	1	np	np
Total	33	8.0	14.6	20	3.8	4.1
REASON WORK RESUMED						
Negotiation without intervention of a third party	-	-	-	2	np	np
State legislation	2	0.1	0.1	-	-	-
Federal legislation	1	-	0.2	-	-	-
Pre-determined return to work	27	7.5	13.9	16	3.7	3.5
Resumption without negotiation	2	0.4	0.4	-	-	-
Mediation	1	0.1	-	1	np	np
Other reasons	-	-	-	1	np	np
Total	33	8.0	14.6	20	3.8	4.1

- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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Revisions

Revisions have been made to the March quarter 2020 data. The data items affected were number of disputes and employees involved at total Australia level. These revisions are reflected in Table 1 and the associated time series spreadsheet.

Inquiries

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

Data downloads

Table 1: Industrial disputes which occurred during the period

[↓ Download XLS](#)
[88.5 KB]

Table 2a: Industrial disputes which occurred during the period, working days lost, industry

[↓ Download XLS](#)
[102 KB]

Table 2b: Industrial disputes which occurred during the period, working days lost per thousand employees, industry

[↓ Download XLS](#)
[99.5 KB]

Table 3a: Industrial disputes which occurred during the period, working days lost, states and territories

[↓ Download XLS](#)
[149 KB]

Table 3b: Industrial disputes which occurred during the period, working days lost per thousand employees, states and territories

[↓ Download XLS](#)
[138.5 KB]

Table 4a: Industrial disputes which ended during the period, cause of dispute

[↓ Download XLS](#)
[327.5 KB]

Table 4b: Industrial disputes which ended during the period, working days lost per employee involved

[↓ Download XLS](#)
[146.5 KB]

Table 4c: Industrial disputes which ended during the period, reason work resumed

[↓ Download XLS](#)
[252 KB]

All data cubes

[↓ Download ZIP](#)
[403.52 KB]

Previous catalogue number

This release previously used catalogue number 6321.0.55.001.

Methodology

[Industrial Disputes, Australia methodology, June 2020](#)